

**Congressional Actions Relating to a Joint Committee on
Foreign Intelligence**

I. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION 1956 - 1960

1. The Senate Rules Committee reported favorably on Senate Con. Res. 2, proposing a Joint Committee, with Senator Hayden filing a minority view. The Committee report is Attachment No. 1. There was considerable debate on the Senate floor, Attachment No. 2, concerning the resolution and ultimately it was defeated by a roll call vote of 59 to 27. Although the resolution had 35 co-sponsors, on the final vote ten of the co-sponsors voted against the creation of the Joint Committee. It is to be noted that Senator Mansfield did not introduce similar measures in either the 85th or the 86th Congress.

2. In the 85th Congress, 22 measures were introduced (one in the Senate and 21 in the House of Representatives) similar to Senate Con. Res. 2 of the 84th Congress. However, none of these measures was reported out of Committee and, consequently, no floor debate was held. A listing of these bills indicating the sponsors thereof is attached as Attachment No. 3.

3. In the 86th Congress, 21 measures were introduced similar to Senate Con. Res. 2 of the 84th Congress, one in the Senate and 20 in the House of Representatives. A listing is attached as Attachment No. 4.

4. Early in the first session of the 86th Congress, pressure developed on the House Rules Committee to report out favorably a measure for a Joint Committee on Intelligence. Eventually a CIA Subcommittee of House Armed Services was reconstituted. It was stated to be the purpose of the subcommittee that it would undertake a detailed and thorough review of the Agency. This new subcommittee was put under the chairmanship of Paul J. Kilday.

5. There was no formal action taken in the first session of the 86th Congress on any of the measures for a Joint Committee. However, in the second session, it was reported in the press on May 13, 1960 that the House Rules Committee had considered action on the numerous resolutions pending before it for a Joint Committee on Intelligence but decided to take no action "because the time to consider them seemed impropitious."

II. CIA APPEARANCES BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES

There has been a marked increase over the years in the number of appearances that Agency representatives have made before congressional committees. The significant turning point appears to have been the advent of Sputnik I in November 1957. In prior years, Agency appearances have run 8-10 per year and for the last three years, the number of appearances are as indicated below:

1958	21
1959	28
1960	18

The specific committees before which Agency representatives appeared during these three years is attached as Attachment No. 5.

III. LEGISLATION AFFECTING CIA

There has been little occasion for the Central Intelligence Agency to seek amendments to the National Security Act of 1947 which established the Agency, and the enabling act, P. L. 110 of 1949. On several occasions legislative action was requested through the Armed Services Committee, for example, making statutory provision for the position of Deputy Director of Central Intelligence and authorizing the President to appoint the Deputy Director from among the commissioned officers of the armed services. On a number of occasions legislation of Government-wide applicability has been processed with the Agency making specific representations with respect to its needs to the appropriate committees. On other occasions legislative needs of the Agency have been met through proposed legislation handled in committees other than Armed Services; for example, amendments to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to permit agencies other than AEC to transmit restricted data to foreign countries. In this case, of course, the legislation was referred to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy.

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